COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES



FIRE DEPARTMENT

1320 NORTH EASTERN AVENUE LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90063-3294

P. MICHAEL FREEMAN FIRE CHIEF FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

(323) 881-2401

August 27, 2003

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

REQUEST TO AUTHORIZE THE ACQUISITION OF AN INFRARED SUPPORT VEHICLE (ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT:

- 1. Approve the Consolidated Fire Protection District's request and authorize the Purchasing Agent to proceed with the acquisition from Master Body Works Inc., the sole bidder, of an Infrared Support Vehicle and necessary equipment contained therein, not to exceed \$300,000. This purchase request exceeds the \$250,000 fixed asset threshold established by your Board in October 2001 and requires Board approval to move forward with the solicitation and acquisition process.
- 2. Approve the attached "Appropriation Adjustment" in the amount of \$300,000 to transfer funds from the District's Financing Elements Budget Unit to the Prevention Budget Unit for the purchase of the Infrared Support Vehicle.

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PURPOSE OF RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Your Board's approval to purchase an Infrared Support Vehicle will enhance the ability of the Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County to receive downlink video and mapping data used to define wildland fire perimeters and any heat sources that may threaten structures or established control lines.

JUSTIFICATION:

The current 1977, ½ ton step van used for ground based infrared data processing is no longer capable of handling the increased weight of additional video downlink and map processing equipment. Purchase of an improved infrared support platform will dramatically increase reliability and address current workspace limitations, thereby, ensuring emergency response readiness and improve integration with other units assigned to an incident.

<u>Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals</u>

This action meets the County's Strategic Plan Goals of Service Excellence and Public Safety through upgrades to equipment and support systems that provide for public safety and protection of property.

Specific Strategic Plan Goals supported with this purchase include Goal No. 2, Workforce Excellence: Enhance the quality and productivity of the County workforce; and Goal No. 8 Public Safety: Increase public safety and security of all residents.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

The estimated cost of the new Infrared Support Vehicle, including taxes, will not exceed \$300,000. The Consolidated Fire Protection District's 2003-04 Adopted Budget includes sufficient funding for this purchase and maintenance costs will be funded within the existing budget. There is no impact on net County cost.

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Approval of the "Appropriation Adjustment" is necessary to transfer funding from the District's Financing Elements Budget Unit to the Prevention Budget Unit for the purchase of the vehicle.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:

Master Body Works Inc. is in compliance with all Board, Chief Administrative Office (CAO) and County Counsel requirements. The District will not require Master Body Works, Inc. to perform services, which will exceed the approved contract amount, scope of work and contract dates.

CONTRACTING PROCESS:

This is a commodity purchase under the statutory authority of the County Purchasing Agent. The purchase will be requisitioned through and accomplished by the Purchasing Agent in accordance with the County's purchasing policies and procedures, established by Internal Services Department.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS):

The Infrared Support Vehicle will provide fire command staff with information necessary to control wildland fires. This equipment will provide critical and urgent intelligence necessary to protect public health and safety.

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CONCLUSION:

Upon approval by the Board of Supervisors, the Executive Office, Board of Supervisors is requested to return adopted copies of this letter to:

- The Consolidated Fire Protection District Materials Management Division 5801 S. Eastern Avenue, Suite 100 Commerce, CA 90040 Attention: James Ealey, Division Chief
- Internal Services Department
 Purchasing Division
 1100 N. Eastern Avenue, Room 102
 Los Angeles, CA 90063
 Attention: Joe Sandoval, Division Manager

Respectfully submitted,

P. MICHAEL FREEMAN

PMF:lc

Attachment

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors Chief Administrative Officer County Counsel Auditor-Controller